

## BOOK NOTICE

DOUGLAS B. EVANS. 1998. *The Cactuses of Big Bend National Park*. (ISBN 0-292-72098-x, hbk, 0-292-72099-8, pbk.) University of Texas Press, Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819. \$12.95. 82 Pp.

This book provides color photographs for the common cacti of this important national park. After a brief introduction and glossary, the book is divided into 12 chapters, arranged by genus, including *Ariocarpus*, *Coryphantha*, *Echinocactus*, *Echinocereus*, *Echinomastus*, *Epithelantha*, *Ferocactus*, *Glandulicactus*, *Mammillaria*, *Neolloydia*, *Opuntia*, and *Tibetocactus*. Finally, the book ends with a list of cacti historically reported but not recently seen, or cacti that one would expect but have not as yet been found in the park.

The photographs are excellent, and the high quality, glossy paper accentuates their aesthetic value. The descriptions are pointed at the hobbyist but are practical and useful to everyone. Both common and scientific names are given for each species, and no precise localities are given, presumably to inhibit poachers. For some species, details about the ecological life history and elevational range is also given.

This is a wonderful, thrifty "coffee table" and field guide, and I highly recommend it to plant enthusiasts planning to visit the park, or working with the flora of Texas.—*John J. Pipoly III*.